

Sinclair Broadcasting should NOT be allowed to force its 62 stations to air "Stolen Honor", an extremely partisan documentary. A one-sided program such as this one that is passed off as "news" does not serve the public interest and is quite harmful to our democracy. There is no pretense to objectivity in this partisan "documentary."

A contribution to Bush's reelection campaign is within the scope of the law when it is paid for by such a campaign or its supporters. Forcing "Stolen Honor" to be aired is clearly a free 60 minute advertisement disguised as news and an illegal contribution to the Bush campaign.

Mark Hyman, vice president of Sinclair Broadcast Group, appears regularly during local news broadcasts on WZTV, Fox 17 in Nashville, TN with ridiculously partisan commentary. Though his comments are sent to several stations from the main office in Maryland, his segments, called "The Point", are intentionally disguised to fool viewers into believing that they are local news. These one-sided comments are left unchecked and remain out-of-balance throughout the local news broadcasts.

When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.